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Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 9
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

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Overall orientation

9.1 The programme was established following the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s in 2002. As a result of that review, the General Assembly, by its resolution 57/7, brought to a close the New Agenda and endorsed the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)[1] as the framework for the international community's support to African development. In its resolution 57/7, the Assembly also outlined the substantive areas and modalities for providing such support, inter alia, underscoring the need for a structure in the Secretariat in New York to review and report on the support provided by the United Nations system and the international community for the New Partnership, and on the coordinated implementation of outcomes of summits and conferences as they relate to Africa, as well as to coordinate global advocacy in support of the New Partnership. In addition, the Assembly welcomed the actions being taken at the regional level by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of the New Partnership and, in that regard, urged the strengthening of this process as a means of enhancing the effective response of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership. Prior to the adoption of resolution 57/7, the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1998/46 provided the imperative for holding regular inter-agency meetings in each region to improve coordination among United Nations system organizations. Over the years, the consultative meetings gave way to the establishment of a formal, full-fledged mechanism. The Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations system organizations working in Africa, convened by ECA, has become the mechanism for enhancing United Nations system-wide coherence, coordination and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels to "Delivering as one" in support of the African Union and its NEPAD programme, including the African Peer Review Mechanism. Finally, the Assembly, in its resolution 57/7, called upon the United Nations system to enhance its advocacy role and public information activities in support of Africa's development. Subsequently, in its resolution 57/300, the Assembly endorsed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and entrusted to that Office the role of coordinating both reports and advocacy in support of NEPAD. In subsequent resolutions, the Assembly reaffirmed the role of the Office in supporting NEPAD.

9.2 At the World Summit, held at the United Nations in September 2005 (see General Assembly resolution 60/1), world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, the only continent not on track to meet any of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 55/2) by 2015. The New Partnership includes a commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, which represents an important linkage with the Millennium Declaration. NEPAD thus substantially reflects the priorities in terms of meeting the special needs of Africa as set out in the Millennium Declaration. Consequently, through its support to NEPAD, the programme will contribute substantively to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, especially in the light of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held at United Nations

[1] NEPAD was formally adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held in Lusaka in July 2001.

Headquarters in September 2010, where world leaders recognized that more attention should be given to Africa. At its twelfth session, the Regional Coordination Mechanism recommended close collaboration between the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism and the secretariat for the Millennium Development Goals Africa Working Group starting in 2012.

9.3 On 22 September 2008, at the High-level meeting on Africa's development needs, held at United Nations Headquarters, the General Assembly, in its resolution 63/1, adopted the political declaration on Africa's development needs and called upon the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly a comprehensive report on "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward". In compliance with paragraph 39 of the political declaration, the report of the Secretary-General entitled "A monitoring mechanism to review commitments towards Africa's development needs" (A/65/165) was submitted to the Assembly. The improved monitoring mechanism will involve formal periodic reviews, either under the aegis of the General Assembly in the context of its agenda item on the New Partnership for Africa's Development or as a subsegment of the Development Cooperation Forum, which is held every other year under the purview of the Economic and Social Council, to be dedicated exclusively to issues on Africa.

9.4 In implementing the programme, particular attention will be given to addressing the needs of the least developed countries, the majority of which are in Africa. In that regard, the programme will strengthen its collaboration with other United Nations agencies and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to mainstream the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries at the national level. It will be achieved through the programme's direct link with the NEPAD programme and the regional economic communities, which are implementing the components of the African Union Commission.

9.5 A major barrier to Africa's development has been the persistence of conflicts in some of the countries of the region. The need to develop a comprehensive response to promoting peace and security and development has long been recognized and was articulated in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318). In its resolution 63/304, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the outcome of a comprehensive review of the recommendations contained in the original report, as well as of the commitments made, the actions taken, the progress achieved and the lessons learned since 1998. Following the comprehensive review (A/65/152-S/2010/526), the Assembly, in its resolution 65/278, noted the completion of the review and requested the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and report to the General Assembly on an annual basis with a focus on persistent and emerging challenges to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, as well as on the approach and support of the United Nations system. The Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the interdepartmental task force on African affairs.

9.6 In accordance with the mandate provided in the resolutions of the General Assembly, the programme aims to: (a) mobilize support and galvanize the efforts of

the international community for peace and development in Africa; (b) ensure that the development of Africa remains one of the main priorities of the international community; (c) promote a supportive international framework for African development efforts; (d) encourage a coordinated and effective response by the United Nations system at the policy and operational levels in support of African development; and (e) strengthen and enhance South-South cooperation in support of Africa's advancement.

9.7 Regional and international efforts have focused on the implementation of the NEPAD programme and on assisting Africa's efforts to develop a robust peace and security architecture. The programme will support those efforts through a mix of analytical work, advocacy and outreach, and by improving coordination of the work of the United Nations system in support of Africa's development.

9.8 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa provides overall coordination and leadership of the programme, which will be the joint responsibility of the Office, ECA and the Department of Public Information.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen international cooperation in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased international community support for Africa's development, in general, and for NEPAD, in particular	(a) (i) Increased number of United Nations system activities in support of Africa's development
	(ii) Increased number of international forums addressing South-South cooperation in support of Africa
(b) Improved United Nations coordination in providing support to Africa's development	(b) Increased number of joint initiatives in support of Africa's development undertaken by United Nations system agencies
(c) Increased international awareness of Africa's development issues	(c) Increased number of visits to the websites of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

Strategy

9.9 Responsibility for subprogramme 1 is vested in the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa. The subprogramme will ensure that African development issues are effectively addressed in the intergovernmental debates and adequately incorporated into the resolutions emerging from that process. It will seek to raise international awareness of African development issues through advocacy and catalytic activities, participation at key forums, encouragement of United Nations system coordination, promotion of South-South cooperation and engagement with

civil society and the private sector. In view of the interlinkages between peace and sustainable development in Africa, the subprogramme will continue to analyse and draw attention to the root causes of conflict in African countries, monitor early warning signals and make recommendations on steps that need to be taken to tackle violent conflicts in African countries.

9.10 The Office will be proactive in working closely with Member States, the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, and the entire United Nations system (including the Bretton Woods institutions) in the performance of its functions. It will encourage the building of an international infrastructure consortium, with the New Partnership for Africa's Development as the main framework, to facilitate public and private infrastructure investment in Africa and will encourage and support the initiatives of the African Union and subregional organizations aimed at preventing, mediating and resolving conflicts with the assistance of the United Nations. The Office will also continue to conduct studies and organize expert group meetings on the role of the private sector in the implementation of the NEPAD programme, establish and maintain contacts with civil society organizations and the private sector, and encourage their participation in the implementation of the NEPAD programme.

9.11 The Office will continue to monitor the follow-up to international commitments made to Africa in the context of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the 2008 High-level meeting on Africa's development needs, the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, the 2011 Istanbul Programme of Action, and other international forums held since 2011. It will monitor the support (including financial and technical support) given to Africa by new and emerging development partners. The Office will also advocate and further raise international awareness of an effective partnership between African countries and new and emerging development partners. Furthermore, the Office will promote South-South cooperation through, inter alia, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and provide support to various South-South forums. As the co-organizer of the Tokyo process and through its interactions with Member States from the South, the Office will continue to encourage the convening of forums that will result in practical measures to promote South-South cooperation, with a view to enabling African countries to benefit from the sharing of experiences and potentially from technical assistance and cooperation on the part of other developing and emerging countries.

9.12 Following the commitment of the African countries to improve governance through the establishment of the African Peer Review Mechanism, the Office will continue to promote institutional capacity-building and good governance in Africa to support the implementation of the NEPAD programme.

Subprogramme 2
Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the United Nations system-wide support for the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development programme, at the regional and subregional levels, including the implementation of the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced coherence, coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies and organizations in support of the African Union and its NEPAD programme at the regional and subregional levels	(a) Increased number of joint projects implemented by the Regional Coordination Mechanism clusters in support of the African Union and its NEPAD programme at the regional and subregional levels
(b) Enhanced capacity of regional and subregional organizations, particularly the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and regional economic communities to design, implement and monitor their programmes	(b) Increased number of capacity-building joint projects implemented at the regional and subregional levels within the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa

Strategy

9.13 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 2 is vested in ECA. The activities under the subprogramme will be undertaken by the Economic Development and NEPAD Division. In implementing the subprogramme, ECA will work closely with other United Nations bodies at the global, regional and subregional levels, in particular with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, the Department of Public Information, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the regional directors teams, within the context of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa in support of the African Union and its NEPAD programme.

9.14 Support to NEPAD and to the implementation of the work programme of the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union is expected to increase further over the years. For that support to have a tangible impact, coordination and emphasis on joint activities need to be further strengthened and enhanced. The strategic focus of subprogramme 2 will therefore be on strengthening inter-agency collaboration and coordination in the implementation of technical cooperation activities by the various clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa in support of the priorities identified in the work programme of the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union. This will entail strengthening collaboration and coordination with the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Development Bank, the regional economic communities, and other regional and bilateral organizations to ensure the provision of effective support in the context of the Framework of the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union. The subprogramme will promote and support effective, coherent and coordinated actions by United Nations agencies and organizations, including the

Regional Directors Team and the Millennium Development Goals Africa Working Group, in support of the African Union's NEPAD programme. Moreover, the subprogramme will provide substantive and effective servicing of the annual meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa at the regional and subregional levels, including monitoring, assessing and reporting on progress in the implementation of United Nations system-wide support to the African Union and its NEPAD programme at the regional and subregional levels.

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To raise international support for the economic, political and social development of Africa, as well as of the efforts made by Africa and the international community to promote the economic recovery and sustainable development of the region in pursuit of the goals of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced awareness of key thematic issues of NEPAD and other issues related to economic recovery and sustainable development in Africa	(a) (i) Increased number of visits and page views on the *Africa Renewal* online website (ii) Increased number of online news features picked up and reprinted or republished by local media as a result of continuing interest

Strategy

9.15 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 3 lies with the Department of Public Information. The overall strategy involves the development of global communications plans on priority issues affecting Africa, including generating support for the implementation of NEPAD in Africa and in the donor countries, and for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and is aimed at ensuring that such plans are implemented in coordination with the rest of the Department, the United Nations Communications Group and the United Nations system as a whole, and in particular with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and ECA. Activities will include publication of *Africa Renewal* magazine, together with a range of additional outputs, including Web-only news and analysis, background notes, press releases and briefing papers for use by non-United Nations media, both African and international. Dissemination to a diverse public and to target groups, such as parliamentarians, policymakers in both Government and non-governmental organizations, trade unions, civil society and academic institutions, will be achieved through direct contact with individuals and groups as well as through systematic outreach to the media in Africa and to the international mass media, so as to ensure that key players are informed of major national and international initiatives and events that effect sustainable development in Africa.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
55/210	Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication
55/214	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
55/217	Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
55/279	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
56/95	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/2	United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/7	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/300	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
58/233	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
58/235	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/229	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
61/230	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
62/179	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
63/1	Political declaration on Africa's development needs

63/267	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
63/304	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
64/258	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
65/284	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
65/278	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Security Council resolutions

1170 (1998)	Conflict prevention and the promotion of durable peace and security and sustainable development in Africa
1197 (1998)	Support for regional and subregional initiatives on Africa and strengthening of coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the area of conflict prevention and maintenance of peace

Economic and Social Council

1998/44	Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
	Ministerial declaration adopted by the Council at its high-level segment of 2001